and less perilous conditions of life enjoyed by a Sirenian tenant of fresh waters. Leaving this question, however, to the discoveries of my fellow-students, I opine that the present relic is the first indication we have had of the existence of the animal. And in expectation of that increased knowledge of its structure which will doubtless be the fruit of further research, I propose to give it recognition under the name of *Chronozoon Australe*. The fossil was procured from the Chinchilla (Darling Downs) drift, in which it was of course associated with crocodiles, turtles, ceratodus, &c., together with land animals.

Remarks on a Skull of an Australian Aboriginal from the Lachlan District.

By Baron N. de Miklouho-Maclay.

Plate 18.

The cranium, which, through the kindness of Mr. C. S. Wilkinson, I have had for inspection, is not complete (the right temporal bone, the greater part of the sphenoid and the ethmoid bone are absent), but in a fair state of preservation, which circumstance makes me suppose that the owner of the same died not long ago, and that the skull has not remained long in the ground.

This cranium of a probably male Australian aboriginal, of very likely over forty years of age (the *sutura sagittalis* is not very distinct), is remarkable not only on account of a very pronounced dolichocephalism (breadth-index 66.8), but also for the peculiar formation of the occipital bone. The superior curved lines with the external occipital protuberance of the above-named bone form a very prominent occipital curved *crest*, larger than in any of the skulls I have ever seen before. None of the skulls of Australian aborigines in the Australian and Macleay Museums present such a prominence of the superior curved lines. The hindmost point of this skull is the occipital protuberance, and not the convex part of the upper portion of the occipital bone, (the so-called occipital point), as is the case in most human skulls.

A few measures will, I believe, not appear quite useless.

Length from the ophrion to the occip. point, above the occip. protuberance, 187 mm.

Length from the ophrion to the occip. protub., 192 mm.

Interparietal breadth, 125 mm.

Frontal breadth (between the temporal crests of the frontal bone), 102 mm.

Thickness of the bone between the external and internal occipital protuberance, 21 mm.

Breadth index, 66.8.

Height index, 73.2.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE 18.

Fig. 1—Occipital bone of an Australian aboriginal from the Lachlan district, from behind and a little below, showing the prominent *curved crest*, and the not very pronounced inferior curved lines. (Nat. size.)

Fig. 2.—The same bone from the side showing the occipital protuberance, the curved crest, and three ossa triquetra in the lambdoidal suture.

Fig. 3.—Diagrammatic median section of the same bone made with the help of band of lead (lame de plomb of Dr. Marcé.)

c. c.—Curved crest.
c. l.—Inferior curved lines.
p.—Occipital protuberance.
f. m.—Foramen magnum.
o. f.—Ossa triquetra.
m. p.—Mastoid process.
p.—Parietal bone.
o.—Occipital bone.
f.—Temporal bone.

NOTES AND EXHIBITS.

Professor Stephens exhibited a living example and photographs of the remarkable New Zealand *Hatteria (Sphenodon*, or *Rhynchosaurus) punctata*, brought to Sydney by W. Knight, Esq., from Karewa Island, Bay of Islands, 6 miles from Tauranga. Here this lizard lives in association with the Mutton birds, whatever these may be, in great numbers. Whether this association is based upon pure friendship may be doubtful. The affinities of